

Claim 13 (New) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the three-dimensional exterior surface is generally cylindrical in shape.

Claim 14 (New) The method according to Claim 11, wherein step (b) further comprises the step of selective deposition of the biocompatible material onto the substrate.

Claim 15 (New) The method according to Claim 11, further comprising the step of depositing a sacrificial layer of a material onto the substrate prior to step (b).

Claim 16 (New) The method according to Claim 11, wherein step (b) is conducted by ion beam-assisted evaporative deposition.

Claim 17 (New) The method according to Claim 11, wherein step (b) is conducted by sputtering.

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Claim 18 (New) The method according to Claim 16, wherein the ion beam-assisted evaporative deposition is conducted in the presence of an inert gas.

Claim 19 (New) The method according to Claim 18, wherein the inert gas is selected from the group consisting of argon, xenon, nitrogen and neon.

Claim 20 (New) An implantable medical device produced according to the method of Claim 11, wherein the implantable medical device further comprises at least one surface having controlled heterogeneities thereupon.

Claim 21 (New) The implantable medical device according to Claim 20, wherein the implantable medical device further comprises an tubular endoluminal stent capable of radially expanding by at least one of shape memory, pseudoelastic, plastic or elastic deformation and having luminal and abluminal surfaces thereof, at least the luminal surface having controlled heterogeneities thereupon.